



Frayed Fabric

Table settings can be as fussy or simple as your tastes desire. A simple no-sew method is "frayed edges". Most woven fabrics are suitable for fraying the edges. To make your piece (placemat, napkin, runner, etc.), simply cut the shape desired and with a tapestry needle, begin pulling the edges row by row until you have the amount of fray desired. If you are concerned about excess fraying you could use clear nail polish applied to the (back) edges, Fray Stop (sold in craft stores).



1. Use a tapestry needle (they have dull points), gently separate the weave in a row from the edge.
2. Do this in several evenly spaced points, this will give you a start on your edge.
3. Work the thread (row) away from the edge until it separates.
4. Continue this process until your edges begin to look like the picture (left).
5. Straight stitch (machine) or hand sew your edges to prevent from further fraying, or use Fray Stop. You can also use clear nail polish along the frayed edge to prevent further unraveling.

Tips:

- Make sure you finish your frayed edges, otherwise you will have a knotted mess when they wash!
- Aida cloth (cross-stitch) works wonderful for making frayed book marks, pillow covers and hand towels.
- Check your cut to assure you are keeping your rows that you want to fray, straight. If the cut is not straight, the fraying will not turn out as you desired.
- Examples of good fabrics to use: Aida Cloth, Burlap, Linen, some Cottons.